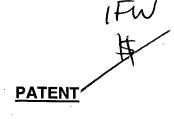
. 08/06/04





## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:

10/716,223

Filing Date:

November 18, 2003

Applicant:

Toshio Maruyama

**Group Art Unit:** 

3632

Examiner:

Amy J. Sterling

Title:

PIPE HOLDING FASTENER

Attorney Docket:

0275M-000605USA

Mail Stop Amendment Director of The United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION NOTICE WITH PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 10, 2004, setting a shortened statutory period for reply of one month, Applicant provisionally elects, with traverse, to prosecute species II (as redefined herein) directed to Figures 8-11. Claims 5-9, as well as new Claims 10-17 read on this species.

Applicant hereby petitions under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for an extension of time in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action and includes a fee as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) with this response for such extension of time.

Prior to examination of the present application, please also consider the following.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 6 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 13 of this paper.